

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 124928

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO DAR ES SALAAM
BUJUMBURA NAIROBI FROM KINSHASA 25 MAY 75:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 4308

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, SMITH, HUNTER)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

1. FOLLOWING IS ESSENCE OF HOUR LONG TALK WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER BULA CONCLUDED 0030 MAY 25.
ORDERS ISSUED MAY 22 TO CND, "TERRITORIALS,"
AND OTHER ZAIRIAN FORCES TO INTENSIFY PATROLS ON ZAIRE
COAST LAKE TANGANYIKA AND IN ZAIRIAN WATERS. NO RESULTS
YET BUT "PRUDENT" EFFORT CONTINUING.

2. PROPOSED TEXT RADIO APPEAL PASSED MINISTRY NATIONAL
ORIENTATION AND BROADCASTS EXPECTED BEGIN FROM LUBUMBASHI
MAY 25. PROMISED PASS ON MY VIEW RE KANANGA ALSO;
RULED OUT KINSHASA CITING ATMOSPHERIC PROBLEMS THIS TIME
OF YEAR, TOLD ME BUKAVU UNFORTUNATELY "EN PANNE." HIS
KNOWLEDGE OF SITUATION IN BUKAVU IS EVIDENCE HE HAS
LOOKED INTO MATTER. HE WAS IMPRECISE RE LANGUAGES TO BE
USED.

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3. SUGGESTED VOA ALSO BROADCAST APPEAL, CITING MANY

LISTENERS THROUGHOUT AFRICA -- IDEA I COMPLIMENTED HIM
ON AND URGE BE CARRIED OUT.

4. TANZANIANS INEXPLICABLY HAVE AS YET CONTACTED
NEITHER ZAIRE NOR BURUNDI. WITHOUT PROMPTING SAID "COMBINED
OPERATION"

IF PROPOSED BY TANZANIA WOULD BE POSSIBLE. HE PREPARED
FLY TO MEET TANZANIAN MINISTER AND
THOUGHT MY SUGGESTION ONE OF MY STAFF OR MYSELF MIGHT
ACCOMPANY WORTH PURSUING IF TANZANIANS PROPOSED COORDINATED
EFFORT. (WAS HE SERIOUS?) WELCOMED MY STATEMENT WE WOULD OFFER
COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES TO TANZANIANS AND, OF COURSE, TO ZAIRE.

5. LISTENED WITH INTEREST TO MY REMARKS RE POSSIBLE
USE MISSIONARY PLANES, DAO PLANE, CONSULS BUKAVU,
LUBUMBASHI, KIGOMA, US COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND
TECHNICIANS IN CONNECTION POSSIBLE COORDINATED EFFORT.
ASKED QUESTIONS BUT WAS NON-COMMITTAL.

6. STRESSED NEED FOR ZAIRIAN PRUDENCE VIZ-A-VIZ BOTH
TANZANIA AND BURUNDI, CITING COMPLEX CROSS REFUGEE
SITUATION, EVIDENT SENSITIVITIES OF ALL CONCERNED, AND
RECENT TANZANIAN ALLEGATIONS THAT AMIN HAD PLEDGE OF USE
AIRFIELD IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRY FOR USE AGAINST TANZANIA.
NOT TRUE OF ZAIRE, AND BURUNDI FOREIGN MINISTER TODAY
TOLD HIM NOT TRUE OF BURUNDI EITHER. SAID MOBUTU, IN
RESPONSE UGANDA'S TROOP MOVEMENTS TOWARD TANZANIA, RECENTLY
URGED AMIN NOT TO ATTACK. IN DELICATE CIRCUMSTANCES,
WITHOUT TANZANIAN OK, ZAIRIAN AIR AND LAKE PATROLS
WOULD "PRUDENTLY" STAY CLOSE TO ZAIRIAN SHORE.

7. BURUNDI FOREIGN MINISTER AND HE TRYING SORT OUT
BILATERAL REFUGEE PROBLEMS BUT BOTH AGREED KIDNAPPERS
MOST LIKELY IN TANZANIA. BURUNDI TROOPS WERE ALONG LAKE
AND TANZANIAN FRONTIERS AND HAD NOT OBSERVED ANYTHING
UNUSUAL.

8. REST OF CONVERSATION MORE PHILOSOPHICAL, TOUCHING ON
CUBA, SOVIETS IN CONGO, UGANDA, SOMALI, VIETNAM,
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CAMBODIA, ZAIRIAN NEED FOR CAPITALIST TECHNOLOGY TO
STRENGTHEN ZAIRIAN SOCIALISM, US INTEREST IN HELPING
ACHIEVE "STRONG NEUTRAL ZAIRE," ASSISTANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT, AND MORE POINTEDLY ZAIRE'S NEED FOR GIFT
OF US TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT TO MOVE KIVU PRODUCE TO MARKET.
"WE CAN'T NOW AFFORD TO BUY NEEDED C-130'S." HINTON UNQUOTE
INGERSOLL

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